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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2012

Mr. ROSS of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, on September 19–21, 2012, I was not present for the following votes.

Rollcall vote 585 on passage of H.R. 5044, the Andrew P. Carpenter Tax Act. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

Rollcall vote 586 on passage of H.R. 5912, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit the use of public funds for political party conventions. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

Rollcall vote 587, on ordering the previous question providing for consideration of H.J. Res. 118 and H.R. 3409. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

Rollcall vote 588, on agreeing to the resolution providing for consideration of H.J. Res. 118 and H.R. 3409. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

Rollcall vote 589 on passage of H.J. Res. 118, Providing for congressional disapproval of the rule submitted by the Office of Family Assistance of the Administration for Children and Families of the Department of HHS relating to waiver and expenditure authority under the Social Security Act with respect to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

Rollcall vote 590, on passage of HR 6429, To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to promote innovation, investment, and research in the United States, to eliminate the diversity immigrant program, and for other purposes. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

Rollcall vote 591, on passage of H.R. 5987, to establish the Manhattan Project National Historical Park in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, Los Alamos, New Mexico, and Hanford, Washington, and for other purposes. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

Rollcall vote 592, on Markey of Massachusetts Amendment No. 1. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

Rollcall vote 593, on Waxman of California Amendment No. 3. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

Rollcall vote 594, on Kelly of Pennsylvania Amendment No. 4. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

Rollcall vote 595, on Markey of Massachusetts Amendment No. 5. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

Rollcall vote 596, on Jackson Lee of Texas Amendment No. 8. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

Rollcall vote 597, on McKinley of West Virginia Amendment No. 9. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

Rollcall vote 598, on Markey of Massachusetts Amendment No. 10. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

Rollcall vote 599, on DeFazio of Oregon Amendment No. 11. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

Rollcall vote 600, on Flake of Arizona Amendment No. 12. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

Rollcall vote 601, Gosar of Arizona Amendment No. 13. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

Rollcall vote 602, on motion to recommit, to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations before December 31, 2013, under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

Rollcall vote 603, on passage of H.R. 3409, the Coal Miner Employment and Domestic Energy Infrastructure Protection Act. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL EDWARD F. MALINOWSKI

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2012

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Colonel Edward F. Malinowski, who is retiring from the United States Air Force Reserve after more than 31 years of dedicated service. His time in the Air Force exemplifies the commitment and sacrifice our nation's armed service members are willing to make to protect American freedom and values around the world.

Lt. Col. Malinowski has been a lifelong resident of the Chicago area. He and his wife, Sharon, and their three children, Christina, Edward Jr., and Matthew, currently reside in Burbank, Illinois, a city I proudly represent.

Edward Malinowski was promoted to his current rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force Reserve's 910th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron in October 2006. He exhibited an excellent aptitude throughout his career in overseeing the safety and maintenance of Air Force aircraft. Lt. Col. Malinowski has helped maintain the squadron with the longest flying safety record of any Air Force unit to date. And his service goes well beyond maintaining aircraft: in the Reserve he assisted with a critical sandbagging mission along the Mississippi River during the 1993 floods and his squad saved a man's life after he drove his car off a levy.

His record and experience in the Air Force Reserve led him to private sector work which included managing Chicago's Meigs Field Airport, where he oversaw the airport's safe closure. Aside from his numerous honors and accomplishments Lt. Col. Malinowski gave a great deal back to the community. He donated his time and knowledge by introducing intercity children to the joys of flight through the Young Eagles Program. He is also a Medinah Shriner life member and has provided aid to injured children by volunteering to fly victims to the organization's hospitals and burn centers.

Whether it was organizing a group of 2,000 citizens for the Presidential Inaugural Parade or being deployed in Southeast Asia to aid a logistics unit that supported combat aircraft in Iraq and Afghanistan, Lt. Col. Malinowski has continuously answered the call to serve our nation. Please join me in honoring this man who has done so much for his country and community. May he enjoy a long and well deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2012

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, as I have stated in the past, I am inclined to vote “no” on any suspension bill that seeks to enact complex and controversial legislation through a process designed for non-controversial legislation and relatively minor changes in law.

I have consistently opposed the diversity visa lottery program. However, there are substantial flaws in H.R. 6429. Congress should consider abolishing the diversity visa lottery through the regular process with full debate and with the consideration of amendments.

For the same reason, I also voted against H.R. 5987 because I believe that bill deserves further analysis, debate and amendment.

There are times when I will vote for a complex or controversial suspension bill when the merits are overwhelming and the bill is, in my view, not in need of amendment. Both of the last two votes of Thursday, September 20, 2012, did not meet that standard.

H.R. 6429 failed to pass under suspension of the rules. I believe that the diversity visa lottery should be abolished, but that the approach taken by H.R. 6429 is not the best policy.

DISAPPROVING RULE RELATING TO WAIVER AND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.J. Res. 118, the Election-Year Partisan Welfare Resolution. This political stunt—based entirely on untruths—is a futile attempt to distort the Administration's position in order to score political points.

As independent fact-checkers and experts have resoundingly stated, the Administration's proposal to help states move more people from welfare to work does nothing to undermine the 1996 Welfare Reform law. The HHS notice emphasizes that these waivers must improve the employment of welfare recipients. Governors must ensure that their proposals will move at least 20 percent more people from welfare to work. These are the facts.

This strategy, which provides States more flexibility to help get people back to work, is sound policy that cuts red tape and can increase the efficiency of the welfare system. For this reason, two Republican governors requested that HHS offer these waivers. Additionally, the GOP-led House found it unobjectionable enough to pass legislation allowing welfare waivers in 2002, 2003, and 2005.

House Republicans are today wasting precious legislative time that should be spent passing the President's jobs plan, extending middle-class tax cuts, and addressing the fiscal cliff to prevent the disastrous effects of sequestration. Instead, they decided to again put